

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Mary K. Toth et al.

Serial No.: 09/483,039

Filed: January 18, 2000

Docket No.: GMI5212USA (G180.122.101)

Title: ATTACHABLE SNACK FOOD CONTAINER

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 38 as follows:

1.(Previously presented) A snack food container comprising:

a side wall forming an upper opening;

a bottom wall connected to the side wall opposite the upper opening; and

a flange body extending downwardly from the bottom wall, the flange body defining an inner surface and an outer surface, the inner surface being configured for selective attachment to a beverage container and characterized by the absence of threads;

wherein the side wall and the bottom wall define an internal storage region for containing a snack food product, the internal storage region being formed apart from the inner surface of the flange body.

2.(Original) The snack food container of claim 1, wherein the inner surface of the flange body is sized in accordance with a top portion of an available beverage container having a predetermined outer dimension.

3.(Original) The snack food container of claim 2, wherein the available beverage container is cylindrical such that the predetermined outer dimension is a diameter.

4.(Original) The snack food container of claim 3, wherein the inner surface is substantially annular.

5.(Original) The snack food container of claim 3, wherein the inner surface includes a receiving section for interfacing with a top portion of the beverage container, the receiving section defining a diameter slightly greater than a diameter of the top portion of the separate beverage container.

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6.(Original) The snack food container of claim 5, wherein the receiving section defines a diameter in the range of approximately 52-55 mm.

7.(Previously presented) The snack food container of claim 1, wherein the inner surface includes a first section adjacent the bottom wall and a second section extending from the first section, the first section being vertical.

8.(Original) The snack food container of claim 7, wherein the second section expands outwardly from the first section for guiding the snack food container onto a beverage container.

9.(Original) The snack food container of claim 1, wherein the flange body further comprises:
at least one retention tab extending in a generally radial fashion from the inner surface,
the at least one retention tab being axially spaced from the bottom wall.

10.(Original) The snack food container of claim 9, wherein the at least one retention tab is configured to selectively engage a separate beverage container.

11.(Original) The snack food container of claim 9, further comprising:
a plurality of retention tabs circumferentially spaced along the inner surface.

12.(Previously Presented) The snack food container of claim 1, wherein the snack food container forms a slot extending from the side wall to the bottom wall, and further wherein the slot is configured to allow access to a beverage contained within the beverage container from an exterior of the side wall.

13.(Original) The snack food container of claim 12, wherein the slot is sized to allow passage of a straw.

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14.(Original) The snack food container of claim 12, wherein the slot extends in an angular fashion from the bottom wall to the side wall.

15.(Original) The snack food container of claim 12, wherein the slot extends through the flange body.

16.(Original) The snack food container of claim 1, wherein the side wall, the bottom wall and the flange body are integrally formed.

17.(Original) The snack food container of claim 1, further comprising:
a protective film secured across the upper opening.

18.(Previously presented) The snack food container of claim 1, further comprising:
a straw removably associated with the side wall.

19.(Previously presented) A packaged good article comprising:
a snack food container comprising:
a side wall forming an upper opening,
a bottom wall connected to the side wall opposite the upper opening,
a flange body extending downwardly from the bottom wall, the flange body
defining an inner surface and an outer surface, the inner surface being
configured for selective attachment to a separate beverage container and
characterized by the absence of threads,
wherein the side wall and the bottom wall define an internal storage region; and
a snack food product contained within the internal storage region apart from the inner
surface of the flange body.

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20.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the inner surface of the flange body is sized in accordance with a top portion of an available beverage container having a predetermined outer dimension.

21.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 20, wherein the available beverage container is cylindrical such that the predetermined outer dimension is a diameter.

22.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 21, wherein the inner surface is substantially annular.

23.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the inner surface includes a receiving section for interfacing with a top portion of the beverage container, the receiving section defining a diameter slightly greater than a diameter of the top portion of a separate beverage container.

24.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 23, wherein the receiving section defines a diameter in the range of approximately 52-55 mm.

25.(Previously presented) The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the inner surface includes a first section, adjacent the bottom wall and a second section extending from the first section, the first section being vertical.

26.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 24, wherein the second section expands outwardly from the first section for guiding the snack food container onto a beverage container.

27.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the flange body further comprises:

at least one retention tab extending in a generally radial fashion from the inner surface,
the at least one retention tab being axially spaced from the bottom wall.

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28.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 27, wherein the at least one retention tab is configured to selectively engage the separate beverage container.

29.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 27, further comprising:
a plurality of retention tabs circumferentially spaced along the inner surface.

30.(Previously presented) The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the snack food container forms a slot extending from the side wall to the bottom wall, and further wherein the slot is configured to allow access to a beverage contained within the beverage container from an exterior of the side wall.

31.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 30, wherein the slot is sized to allow passage of a straw.

32.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 30, wherein the slot extends in an angular fashion from the bottom wall to the side wall.

33.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 30, wherein the slot extends through the flange body.

34. (Original) The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the side wall, the bottom wall and the flange body are integrally formed.

35.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 19, further comprising:
a protective film secured across the upper opening.

36.(Previously presented) The packaged good article of claim 19, further comprising:
a straw removably associated with the side wall.

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37.(Original) The packaged good article of claim 19, wherein the snack food product includes a plurality of dried food items.

38.(Currently amended) A snack food container comprising:

- a side wall forming an upper opening;
- a bottom wall connected to the side wall opposite the upper opening;
- a flange body extending downwardly from the bottom wall; and
- retaining means associated with the flange body for selectively attaching the snack food container to a separate beverage container, the retaining means characterized by the absence of threads;

wherein the side wall, the bottom wall, the flange body and the retaining means are homogenous and integrally formed, and form an internal storage region for containing a snack food product apart from the retaining means.

39.(Previously presented) The snack food container of claim 38, wherein the retaining means includes a substantially annular surface formed by the flange body, the substantially annular surface having a diameter approximating a diameter of an available cylindrical beverage container.

40.(Previously presented) The snack food container of claim 38, further comprising:

- a slot extending from the side wall to the bottom wall configured to provide access to a beverage contained within the beverage container from an exterior of the side wall.

41.(Original) The snack food container of claim 40, wherein the slot extends through the flange body.

42.(Original) The snack food container of claim 38, further comprising:

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a protective film sealed across the upper opening.

43.(Previously presented) A snack food container comprising:

a side wall forming an upper opening;

a bottom wall connected to the side wall opposite the upper opening; and

a flange body extending downwardly from the bottom wall, the flange body defining an inner surface and an outer surface, the inner surface being configured for selective attachment to a beverage container and characterized by the absence of threads, the flange body further comprising:

at least one retention tab extending in a generally radial fashion from the inner surface, the at least one retention tab being axially spaced from the bottom wall;

wherein the snack food container defines an internal storage region for containing a snack food product, the internal storage region being formed apart from the inner surface of the flange body.

44.(Previously presented) The snack food container of claim 43, wherein the at least one retention tab is configured to selectively engage a separate beverage container.

45.(Previously presented) The snack food container of claim 43, further comprising:
a plurality of retention tabs circumferentially spaced along the inner surface.

46.(Previously presented) A packaged good article comprising:

a snack food container comprising:

a side wall forming an upper opening,

a bottom wall connected to the side wall opposite the upper opening,

a flange body extending downwardly from the bottom wall, the flange body defining an inner surface and an outer surface, the inner surface being configured for selective attachment to a separate beverage container and

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characterized by the absence of threads, the flange body further comprising:

at least one retention tab extending in a generally radial fashion from the inner surface, the at least one retention tab being axially spaced from the bottom wall,

wherein the snack food container defines an internal storage region; and

a snack food product contained within the internal storage region apart from the inner surface of the flange body.

47.(Previously presented) The packaged good article of claim 46, wherein the at least one retention tab is configured to selectively engage the separate beverage container.

48.(Previously presented) The packaged good article of claim 46, further comprising:
a plurality of retention tabs circumferentially spaced along the inner surface.